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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

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SUBJECT Cement Plant in Groszowice (Groschowitz)

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1. The Cementownia Groszowice (cement plant) is located in the town of Groschowitz (P 51/J 27), about 3.5 kilometers south-southeast of Oppeln (Opole), on the eastern bank of the Oder River. The plant area is bordered by the Oppeln-Heydebreck (Kedzierzyn) railroad line on the east, by the road to Krappitz (Krapkowice) (P 51/J 25) on the west, by the road to Gruden (Grudzice) (P 51/J 27) on the north, and by the Schwarzbach on the south. The plant has a standard-gauge connection to the Oppeln-Heydebreck railroad line and a narrow-gauge railroad line to the lime quarry.

2. Dismantling activities at the former German cement plant which had suffered no war damage began in 1945. However, the dismantling was soon discontinued and the old equipment reinstalled. New post-war equipment at the plant included a drum kiln and a cement mill.

3. Transportation equipment included narrow-gauge railroad engines with dump cars for shipping limestone from the quarry to the plant, one standard-gauge railroad engine, four trucks, two sedans, one jeep, and one bus. The factory-owned power plant was equipped with six high-pressure boilers, six generators, and four turbines. This power plant also supplied electric current to the cement plant in Bolko (Nowa Wies Krolewska) (P 51/J 17) and the Odra Cement Plant in Sakrau (Zakrzow). In case of a breakdown, the main power system could supply current just as the factory power plant could supply power to other consumers connected to the main power net.

4. The process of production began at the lime quarry, located 3 or 4 kilometers from the plant. Lime was blasted and loaded on dump cars by means of four dredgers. Inside the plant, the lime was crushed by two hammer-type crushers, pulverized by three mills, and finally elutriated. Then the mud was put into mud tanks from where it was pressed into the lime kilns by means of compressors. Coal dust to fuel the kilns was ground at a coal mill at the plant. The burned clinker was taken to the clinker shop from where conveyor belts carried it to the cement mills. Underground conveyor belts took the processed cement to silos where it was packed into paper bags, holding 50 kg, by four packing machines. Portland cement, No 250, 350 and 450, was produced at the plant. The 450-type cement was produced primarily for export. Prior to the fall of 1951, the plant had a

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daily output of 100 20-ton freight cars of cement (20,000 tons), working at full capacity. It is believed that current output should be higher since a drum kiln, 100 m long, a new cement mill from the USSR, and a new dredger at the quarry have been put into operation. Packed cement was shipped to inner Poland, generally Warsaw or Czestochowa, and cement for export was primarily shipped to the USSR.

5. Basic raw materials for the production of cement, lime, clay, and marl were supplied by the plant-owned quarry. Raw materials delivered by railroad to the plant included gypsum and crude gypsum and coal from Upper Silesia. Water for the power plant and for the elutriation of the lime was pumped from the Oder River up to the plant.

6. The plant had a total work force of about 1,000 people. The production department worked in three shifts, whereas the workshops and less important departments worked two shifts only. The plant was a state-owned enterprise, subordinated to the Ministry for Light Industry (Ministerstwo Przemyslu Lekkiego). Prior to the fall of 1951, the plant was managed by three directors: the administrative director, Dura (fnu), the commercial director, Pilarski (fnu), and a technical director whose name was not remembered [redacted] Engineer Klaka (fnu) was chief of a newly installed secret production department. His wife, a physicist, worked as his assistant. Inspections, which were frequently held at the plant, were primarily concerned with this department. 25X1

7. The plant was surrounded by a wire fence except for that part bordering the railroad line which had a concrete wall. Sentries of the armed plant police were posted at the entrances of the railroad line and at the gate. After the establishment of the new secret production department, guards were also posted inside the plant in front of this department. Each worker had a gate pass with a photograph, valid for one year, which he had to present when entering or leaving the plant. The plant was not under Russian control.

[redacted] Comment. For layout sketch of the cement plant, see Annex. 25X1

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Layout Sketch of the Cement Plant in Groszowice (Groschowitz).

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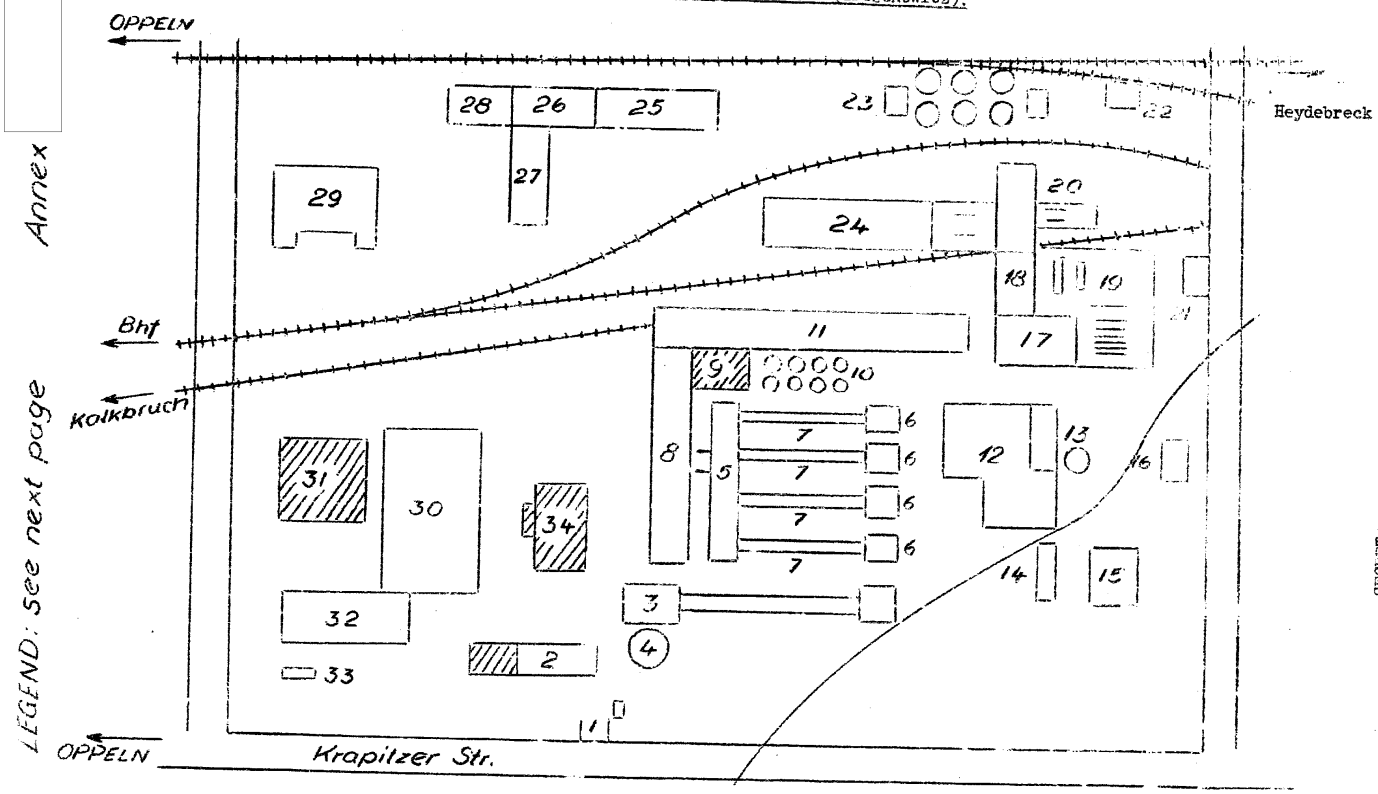

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Legend.

1 Gate with guard house.

2 Laboratory for the new production, four-story brick building. A large library of German chemical books, microscopes, and modern scales were available in this building. In 1951, large quantities of Siemens-made equipment, including small experimental brick-lined kilns, arrived from East Germany. The installations in this building also included refrigerators from Czechoslovakia, stirring machines which were built in in the basement, and centrifuges operating at high rpm numbers. The building also housed the administration.

3 Drum kiln, about 100 meters long. The kiln was obtained [redacted] 25X1 after the war and was installed by an engineer and two mechanics. It is coal fueled and has a compressor which presses the mud into the kiln.

4 Mud tank, 15 to 20 m in diameter.

5 Four parallel old drum kilns, one with a length of 70 meters, the others 60 meters long.

6 Dust chambers, connected to the kiln.

7 Four compressors, under the kilns, to charge the kiln with mud.

8 Coal store with coal mill, to pulverize coal.

9 New building for a planned new production, equipped with one mill, several presses and pumps. The building is connected to building, item No 31, by four pipe lines laid in an brick-lined underground tunnel.

10 Eight to 10 mud tanks.

11 Clinker shop with dredger. Semi-finished products are processed in kilns.

12 Transformer and distributor station with four turbines and six generators.

13 Boiler house with six high-pressure boilers.

14 Electric workshop of power plant.

15 Transformer and high-tension distributor, for a tension of up to 20,000 volts.

16 Fitting shop of power plant.

17 Shop with hammer-type crushers for limestone.

18 Concrete shop with dredger for raw material.

19 Shop with six German cement mills, all in operation.

20 Shop with three mills in operation and a fourth under construction.

21 Carpenter shop.

22 Compressor for the packing station.

23 Six cement silos, 18 m high, 6 to 8 m in diameter, with 4 packing machines.

24 Main store for spare parts etc.

25 Fitting shop.

26 Chemical laboratory.

27 Electric workshop.

28 Store for minor equipment.

29 Apartment house with quarters for leading personnel.

30 Workshop with presses and pumps required for the new production.

31 Building for the new production, equipped with mud tanks, old cement silos which were being coated with tar on the inside.

32 Garage with four trucks, three sedans, and one bus.

33 Fuel station.

34 Small brick building, surrounded by a stone wall, for the new production.